

AGENDA ITEM # XI-D.

Notice of Investment Award

Title: University Center at Dixie State and Southern Utah Universities

DOC Bureau: Economic Development Administration

Investment No. and Type: ED18DEN3030035 – University Center

Applicant: Dixie State University

Contact Information: Sylvia Bradshaw, Director of Sponsored Programs
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City/County, State: St. George/Washington County, UT

U.S. Congressional District 2

EDA Investment Amount: \$143,000

Total Project Cost: \$286,000

Anticipated Impact/Outcome: Leverages applied research and technical assistance to help communities capitalize on economic development opportunities.

Description: This EDA investment funds the first year of a five-year University Center Economic Development Program at Dixie State University in collaboration with Southern Utah University. The program provides technical assistance and applied research to help increase productivity, spur innovation and entrepreneurship, and increase long-term regional competitiveness and economic diversification.

EDA's University Center program is a competitively-based partnership between EDA and academic institutions that makes the varied and vast resources of universities available to the economic development practitioner community.

Should you have any questions, please contact EDA at (202) 482-2900.

BLM HOSTS PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR DRAFT GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE MONUMENT PLANS

Comments will help shape future management of public lands

KANAB, Utah – The Bureau of Land Management will host two public meetings as part of the ongoing land use planning for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) and the federal lands excluded from the GSENM that are now identified as the Kanab-Escalante Planning Area. The draft management plans for the Grand Staircase, Kaiparowits, and the Escalante Canyons Units and associated environmental impact statement (EIS) were released for public review on Aug. 17, 2018 and modified on August 31. More information about the planning effort may be found on the BLM ePlanning project page at <https://goo.gl/EHvhbc>.

"We welcome public discussion about the draft plans and the sharing of input with BLM staff," said **Harry Barber, acting monument manager**. "This review period provides an important opportunity to influence the decision-making process. The alternatives in the draft EIS analyze alternatives for protecting natural and cultural resources within the monument, while also providing opportunities for multiple uses of public lands."

The BLM invites members of the public to attend meetings at the following dates and locations:

- Oct. 15, 2018, from 4 to 7 p.m., Escalante High School, 70 N 1 W, Escalante, UT.
- Oct. 16, 2018, from 4 to 7 p.m., Kanab Elementary School, 41 W 100 N, Kanab, UT.

These open-house meetings provide opportunities for the public to speak with resource specialists, ask questions, and submit written comments in person. Written comments may be submitted at the meetings or anytime through Nov. 30, 2018 via mail or via the ePlanning project page.

To help the BLM properly consider and incorporate feedback, please include a reference to a specific page or section of the draft EIS/draft resource management plan in your comment. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Mail: 669 S Hwy 89A Kanab, UT 84741, Attn: Matt Betenson.
- ePlanning: <https://goo.gl/EHvhbc>.

On Jan. 16, 2018, the BLM initiated planning for these lands and hosted a nearly 3-month-long scoping period and two public meetings. Since then, the BLM has worked with cooperating agencies to develop draft management plans and a draft EIS reflecting input from many stakeholders and the public. The plans include a range of alternatives addressing management issues brought forward during scoping.



October 2, 2018

3 Utah schools get Blue Ribbon designations by Department of Education

SALT LAKE CITY — Three Utah elementary schools — one rural, one suburban and one urban — have been designated 2018 National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education.

Belknap Elementary School in Beaver, Peruvian Park Elementary School in Sandy and Salt Lake's Hawthorne Elementary School were designated as "exemplary high performing schools," which are considered the state's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests.

"We recognize and honor your important work in preparing students for successful careers and meaningful lives. Congratulations on your students' accomplishments and for your extraordinary commitment to meeting their unique needs," said Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos in a video message to the honorees.

Belknap, Peruvian Park and Hawthorne elementary schools were among 349 public and private schools grades K-12 recognized nationwide.

This is the 36th year of the school recognition program. On Nov. 7-8, DeVos and the Department of Education will celebrate with 300 public and 49 private school honorees at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Both Hawthorne and Peruvian Park are magnet schools. Belknap is a Title 1 school that serves about 480 students, 57 percent of them economically disadvantaged, according to the school's profile on the U.S. Department of Education website.

Belknap Elementary



Belknap Elementary School. Photo: Google Maps

[Belknap Elementary School](#) Principal Brad Harris called the school's faculty and students into an impromptu assembly Monday after lunch to deliver the good news of what he described as a "once-in-a-lifetime award."

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He told the Belknap students that the pinnacle of achievement for a professional football player is to play in the Super Bowl. Professional baseball players, meanwhile, aspire to play in the World Series.

"In elementary education, receiving the Blue Ribbon School is kind of a big deal. It's kind of the same thing. Everyone needs a good pat on the back. It's just a great honor. It's a great award for the staff. They were so excited. They're such dedicated people. It's good to see good things happen to good people," Harris said.

Faculty, students and administrators cheered the good news, "kind of gave a few high-fives and then we went right on to business again," Harris said.

Belknap Elementary School, which is in the Beaver County School District, is a data-driven school that focuses on the individual child and develops curriculum and instruction based on the strengths and needs of each student, the profile states.

All students K-3 take home a book on their reading level each night. Their reading is monitored and recorded by parents and the school. Every student in grades 3-6 have Chromebooks to use at school and home during the school year to assist in learning math, English language arts and science concepts.

Hawthorne Elementary



Hawthorne Elementary School. Photo: Google Maps

[Hawthorne Elementary School](#), which is a neighborhood school, has a gifted and talented program and a Curriculum and Assessment Lab, which researches and develops interactive teaching practices. The Salt Lake City School District School, has a focused mission: (to) provide excellence and equity for all students in an environment of academic growth, personal achievement and diversity," said Principal Marian Broadhead in a prepared statement.

"We believe that shared leadership, mutual respect and support among teachers, parents, community volunteers and administrators profoundly impact our students' achievement. Student success is our top priority," Broadhead said.

Hawthorne has a diverse student body in terms of income, languages spoken and academic proficiency. Nearly one-quarter of Hawthorne students live in poverty, and 10 percent are English language learners, speaking 12 languages including Arabic, Korean, Spanish and Urdu.

Peruvian Park Elementary



Peruvian Park Elementary School. Photo: Google Maps

[Peruvian Park Elementary School](#), which is in the Canyons School District, has two distinct learning programs: general education and gifted/talented.

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"We empower students to build their own success through character, confidence and academics. All students in the school identify individual learning goals, track progress, and celebrate their strengths and progress as a united school community," the school's profile states.

With high expectations and perseverance, Peruvian Park's general education classes doubled the percentage of students who achieved proficiency on state exams while students in its gifted/talented program gained a steady increase in proficiency.

"We continue to build students as individuals, to learn as professionals, to stay committed to strong relationships with parents, and to implement high-yielding practices that best meet the needs of the unique learners at our school," the profile states.